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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,130	03/11/2004	Yin Leong Kwong	70040111-1	8795

7590 11/16/2005

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EXAMINER

CARIASO, ALAN B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	<i>PM</i>
	10/798,130	KWONG ET AL.	
	Examiner Alan Cariaso	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,6,7,9-11 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4,5,8,12 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20040311</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 7, 9-11 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by NEEDHAM RIDDLE et al (US 2003/0034985).

3. RIDDLE discloses a lighting system and method, comprising: a mixing cavity (reflective inner sphere 304,306, and/or outer sphere 651 in fig.6B) that mixes light; an optical cable or fiber optic (sensor 654 being a fiber-optic pickup leading to a spectrometer in paragraph 0058) attached to the mixing cavity (304,651), a color sensor (spectrometer 654 in paragraph 0058 representative of monitoring means 223 in paragraph 091 that monitor spectral characteristics) sampling light from within the mixing cavity via the optical cable (paragraph 0058); and color controller (230,214 in fig.2) that controls light color within the mixing cavity, the color controller using information (232,226,228, paragraphs 0090-0092) from the color sensor (654) as feedback about light color within the mixing cavity; wherein within the mixing cavity, light emitting diodes (312) of plural colors generate the light that is mixed, the colors including red, green and blue (paragraphs 0060,0097); a neutral density filter (diffusing surface 652) situated within the mixing means (304,306,651) so as to filter light in some manner received by the cable means.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over NEEDHAM RIDDLE et al (US 2003/0034985) in view of MUTHER et al (US 6,753,661).

6. RIDDLE discloses the claimed invention except a color filter or neutral density filter located at least between the optical cable and the color sensor. MUTHER teaches the use of photodiodes (210) fitted with filters (col.3, lines 7-13), the filters being between the photodiodes (210) and light guide (170) for the purpose of sensing the tristimulus values or color measure (col.3, lines 7-13) to be matched with reference values. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the color light system of RIDDLE et al to include the type of color filters on the photodiodes as taught by MUTHER et al in order to provide color values that enable comparison to reference values in order to form a selected mixed-color lighting.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 4, 5, 8, 12 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

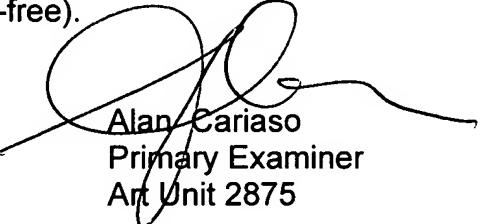
Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. BARBIERI (US 3,924,121), BREEMER (US 4,681,454), HAVEL (US 4,810,937), LEHR (US 5,159,185), BLALOCK (US 6,344,641) and PASHLEY (US 6,726,341) show other color sensors sensing mixed colored light in a chamber of plural colored light sources.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan Cariaso whose telephone number is (571) 272-2366. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alan Cariaso
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2875

November 14, 2005
AC